



SNIPATUIT POND

ROCHESTER

AREA = 710 ACRES

MAXIMUM DEPTH = 6 FT.

NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES



Snipatuit Pond

Rochester

Plymouth County

Buzzards Bay Watershed

Latitude: 41.77444 Longitude: 70.86334 W



710 Acres

Depth: 5 Feet Average
6 Feet Maximum

Primary Gamefish:

Largemouth Bass

www.mass.gov/masswildlife

General Information:

Snipatuit Pond is a 710-acre natural warmwater pond that forms the headwaters of the Mattapoissett River. The pond is shallow and fairly uniform in depth, average depth is five feet and maximum depth is only six feet. The water is tea stained by the surrounding wetlands and transparency is only two and a half feet. It is connected with Great Quitticas Pond by Snipatuit Brook, which can flow either way depending on water levels. The bottom is predominantly mud. The pond is bordered in most areas by a wide border of rushes and pickerel weed and aquatic vegetation is in scattered patches in open water areas. The 5.6 miles of shoreline are moderately developed with houses, a road and cranberry bogs. Long Pond (also known as Black Pond) is connected to the pond on the southeast side. There are three islands (Gull, High Bush and Low Bush) in the pond.

Access:

Snipatuit Pond is located about five miles west of the intersection of Routes 495, 195 and Route 28. It can be reached from Route 195 by taking Route 105 north and taking either Hartley Road or North Avenue to Neck Road. Neck Road cuts through the north end of the pond. Access is provided by the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife through the George E. Wood Memorial Fishermen's Access Ramp (Latitude: 41.78538 N Longitude: 70.85905 W). The ramp is an unimproved ramp with limited parking located off Neck Road. Shoreline access is limited to the area of the pond bordering Neck Road. Fee access can also be obtained through a private cranberry company ramp on Long Pond.

Management History:

The fisheries of Snipatuit Pond were leased for commercial purposes for a period of time in 1878. An August 6, 1912 pond survey reported pickerel, perch, herring, roach (probably large golden shiners), shiners, a few bass, suckers, horned pout (brown bullhead) and eels. Prior to 1946, the pond had been stocked with smallmouth bass, bluegills, bullheads, white perch, yellow perch, pickerel, crappie and shiners. The 1946 Biological Survey captured golden shiners, yellow perch, white perch, pumpkinseeds, chain pickerel, brown bullhead, banded sunfish and johnny (tesselated) darters. This pond was partially reclaimed in 1962 and restocked in 1963 with chain pickerel and walleye. Northern pike were stocked in 1978, 1979, 1985, 1987, 1990, 1994 and 1996. An 18-pound pike was caught from the pond in 1983.

Fish Populations:

The general fish population was most recently studied during a 1978 summer survey. Nine species were collected: chain pickerel, largemouth bass, yellow perch, pumpkinseed, black crappie, golden shiner, brown bullhead, white sucker and alewife (sea-run). The most abundant gamefish is the chain pickerel and the most abundant panfish is the yellow perch. Northern pike are also present in the population today. A June 1991 bass survey reported numerous largemouth bass in the 3 to 6 pound range as well as some decent sized black crappie.

Fishing:

Snipatuit Pond offers good fishing for a variety of warmwater fish species. Abundant forage is present during the summer in the form of young-of-the year herring which leads to excellent growth rates for predatory fish in the pond. The chain pickerel and largemouth bass populations are healthy and fast growing. Yellow perch fishing should be excellent year round, as these fish are abundant and of good average size. Northern pike offer an added attraction in this pond and should currently have individual fish approaching 20 pounds or more (legal size is 28 inches). *Updated: December 17, 2007 S.T.H.*